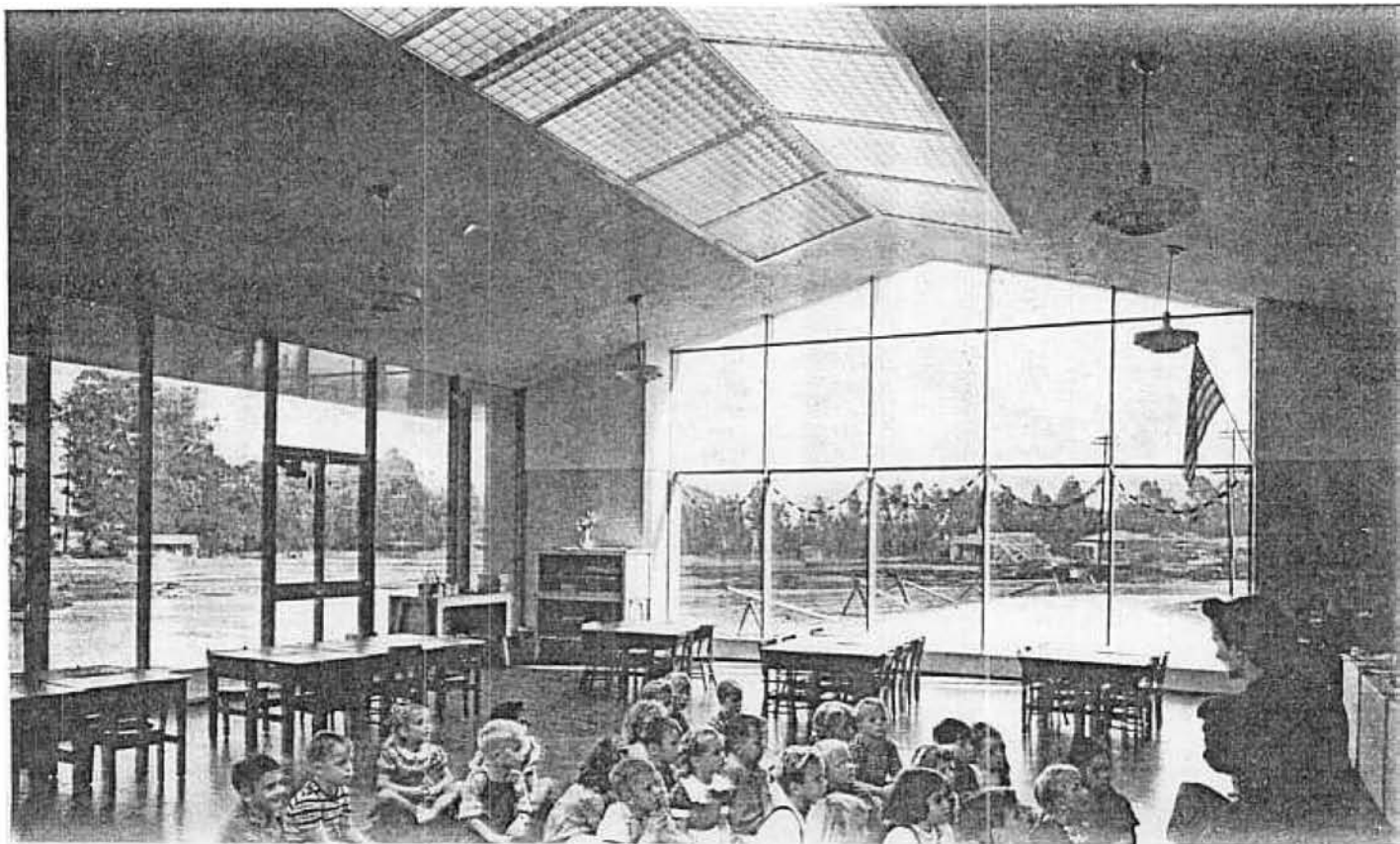
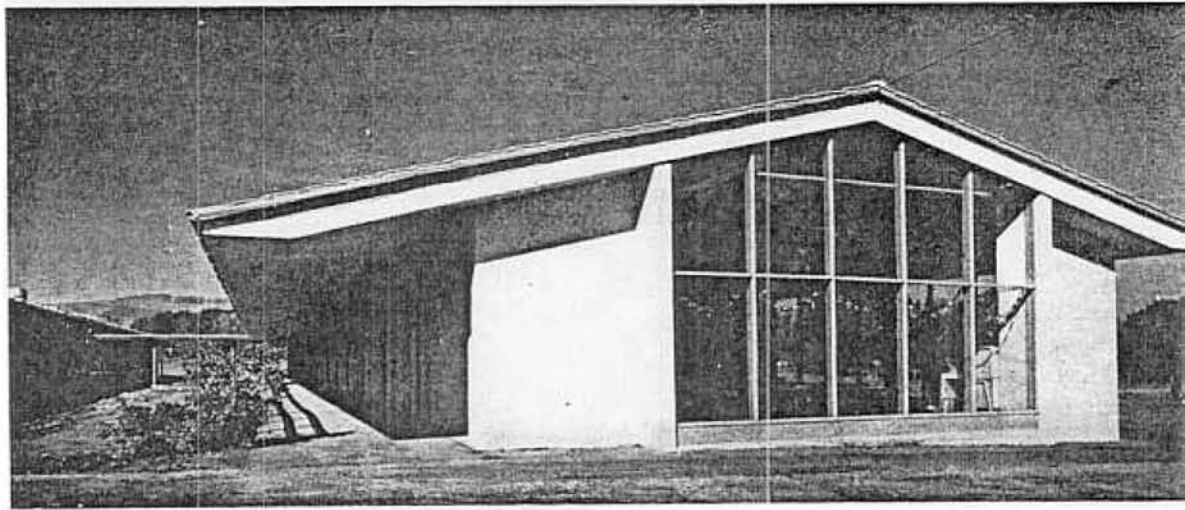
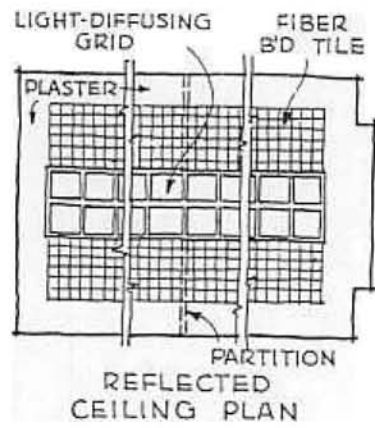


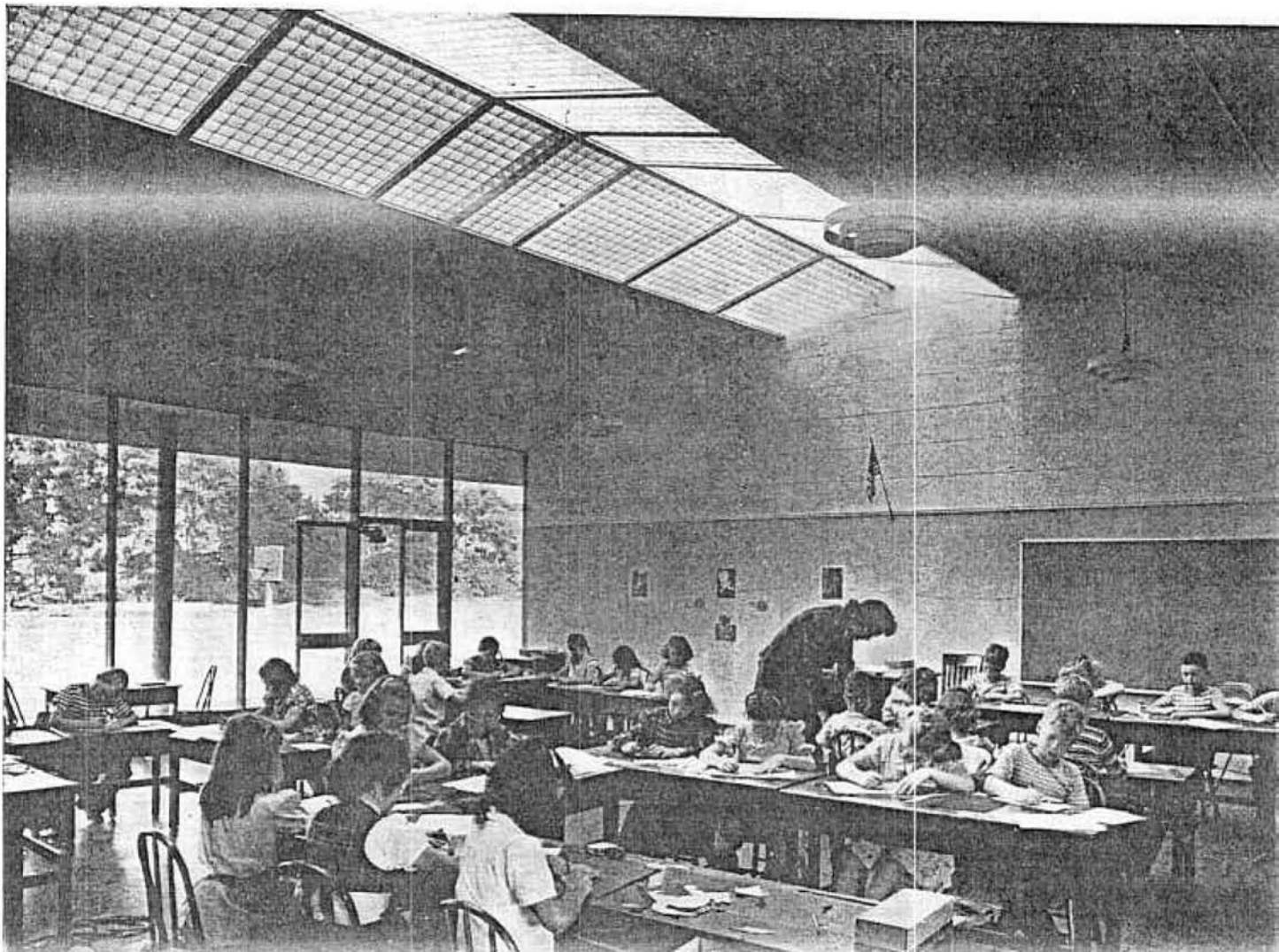
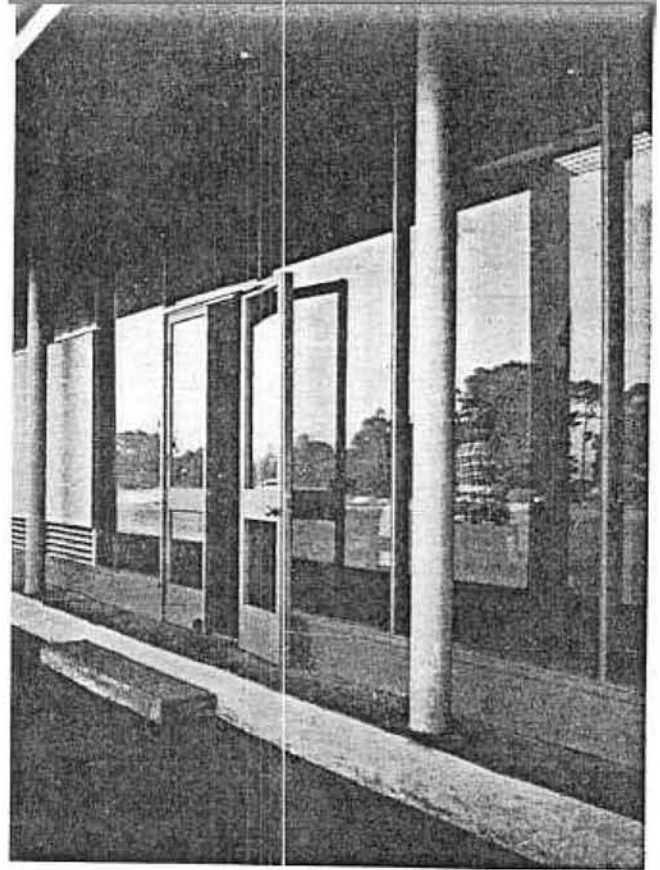
Roger Sturtevant Photos

Above, the first school wing as seen from the north; directly below, its east end; bottom of page, interior of the kindergarten room in this east end. The full-length skylight along the ridge is almost unnoticed against the red terra cotta roof tile. The stucco walls and soffits are stone gray, exterior trim is dark orange, pipe columns are gray — a warm quiet harmony



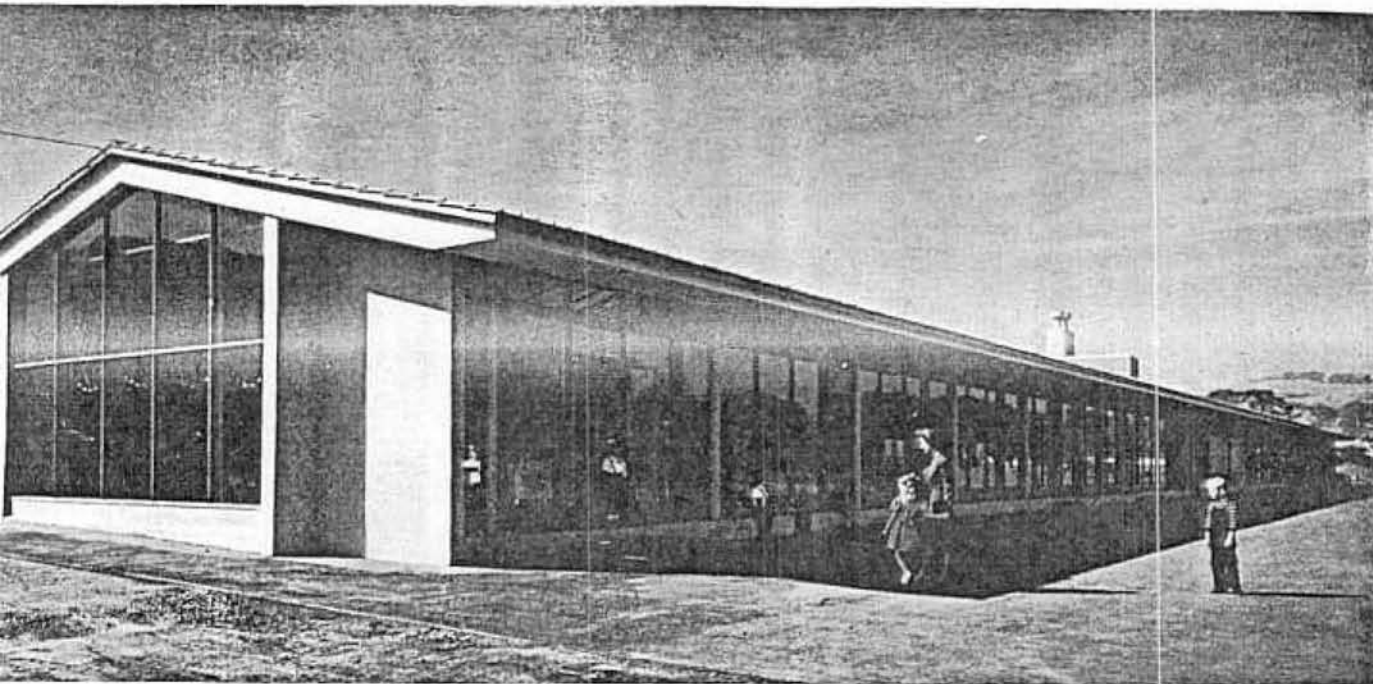


The narrower overhang looking north (as seen at right) merely gives protection against weather; it has the same subtle shape. Concentric ring type lighting fixtures, used with reflector bulbs, seen in room below, are very generally adopted in California for indirect lighting because easy to clean, rebulb, and maintain. Floors are asphalt tile

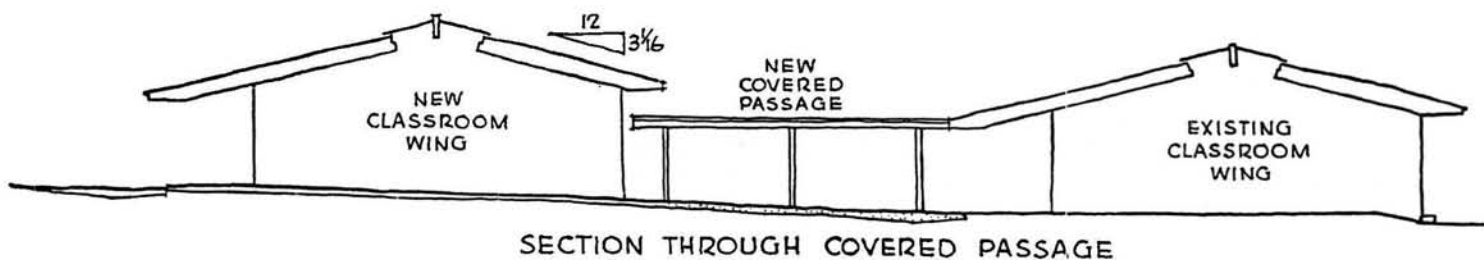
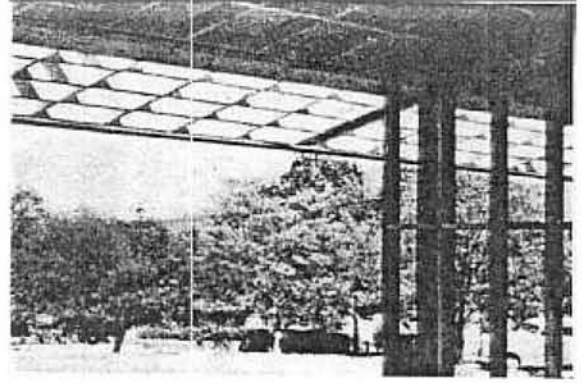




Rear of room (seen at left) contains the architects' standard school furniture. Below, school seen from the northeast; opposite page, from the southeast, with the second wing under construction in the foreground

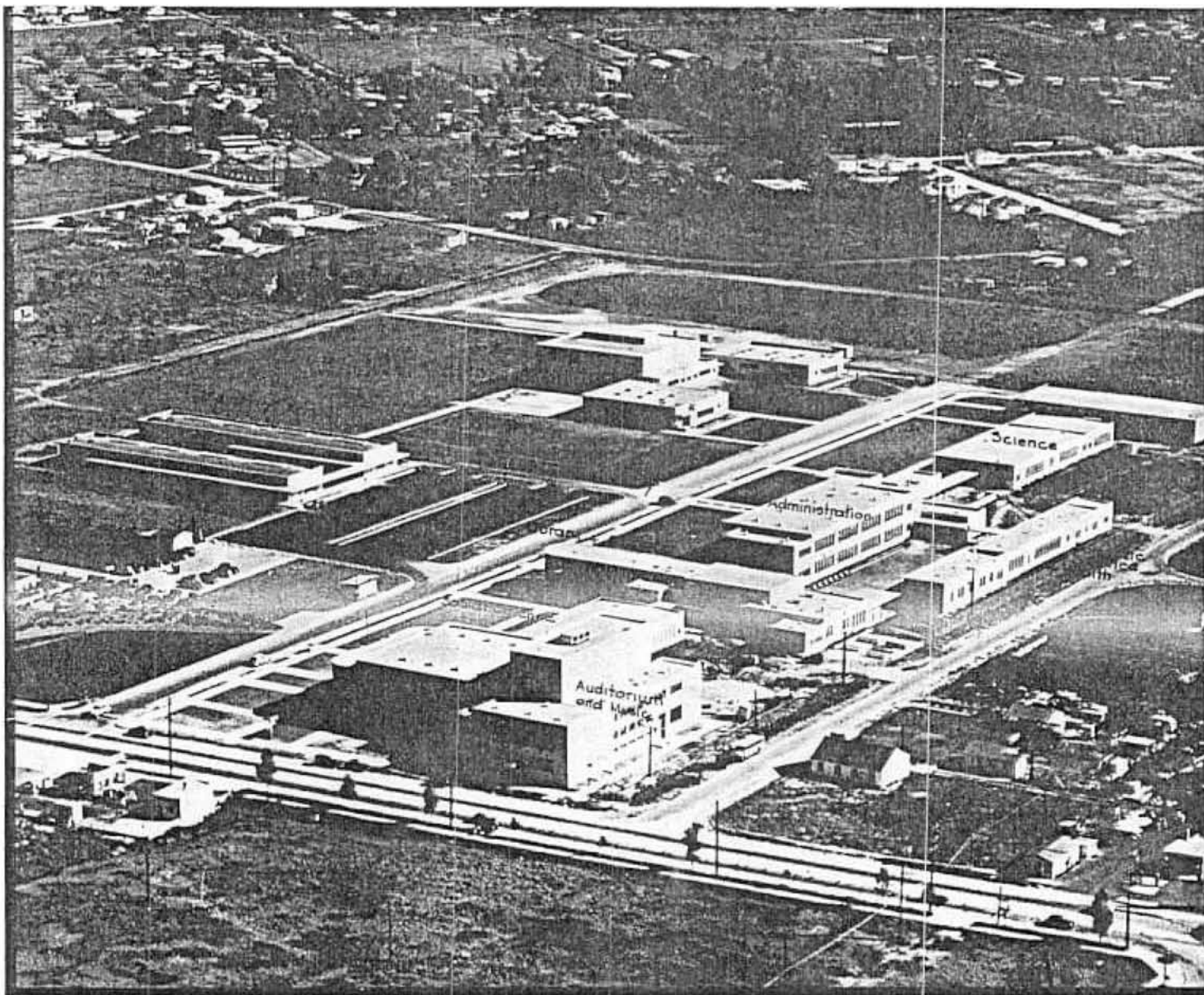


Progress photo at right, from another school, suggests the possibility of using the steel-beam and wood-purlin roof construction (page 402) for a coffered ceiling and pierced overhang admitting slightly more light



Excerpt from a letter from Photographer Roger Sturtevant:

"The teacher turned around and I noticed she was wearing a great pair of dark glasses. 'Oh no,' says I, 'we can't photograph that room. After all this talk about even light if we show a teacher wearing dark glasses it would be silly.' We chose the next room with teacher sans glasses. Hal timidly asked her how the light was to work in. She rhapsodized about the joy of even light and subsequent lack of strain, and she damned every other schoolroom she had ever worked in. Thus encouraged, and curiosity at boiling point, Hal snared the goggled teacher. Most apprehensively he asked her if she suffered from glare in her room. 'Why, not at all,' said she. 'Then why,' asked Hal, 'do you wear dark glasses?' In an amazed tone she answered, 'Dark glasses, dark glasses, oh I do have on my dark glasses. I forgot to take them off after we were out in the yard for recess'"



HIGH SCHOOL, EL MONTE, CALIFORNIA

MARSH, SMITH & POWELL, Architects

DURING THE PERIOD in which this new school plant was being constructed in a rapidly growing suburb of Los Angeles, student enrollment increased more than 25 per cent—from 1,750 to 2,200. Planning for future expansion was, therefore, of paramount importance. The present buildings are so arranged on the site that space is reserved for additional building in almost every department. Two factors determined the choice of the open plan, with departments housed in separate structures: the local soil-bearing value was very low; the buildings had to be designed to resist earthquake stresses. The two larger units—the Administration Building and the Auditorium—are of reinforced concrete construction, erected on piling. The balance of the buildings are one story in height, framed in wood and built up from concrete slabs. Exterior finish is of metal-reinforced cement plaster, applied on diagonal 1-in. sheathing. Built under a PWA program in 1938-1939, the school cost \$610,000, including site improvement and professional fees, but excluding equipment and landscaping.

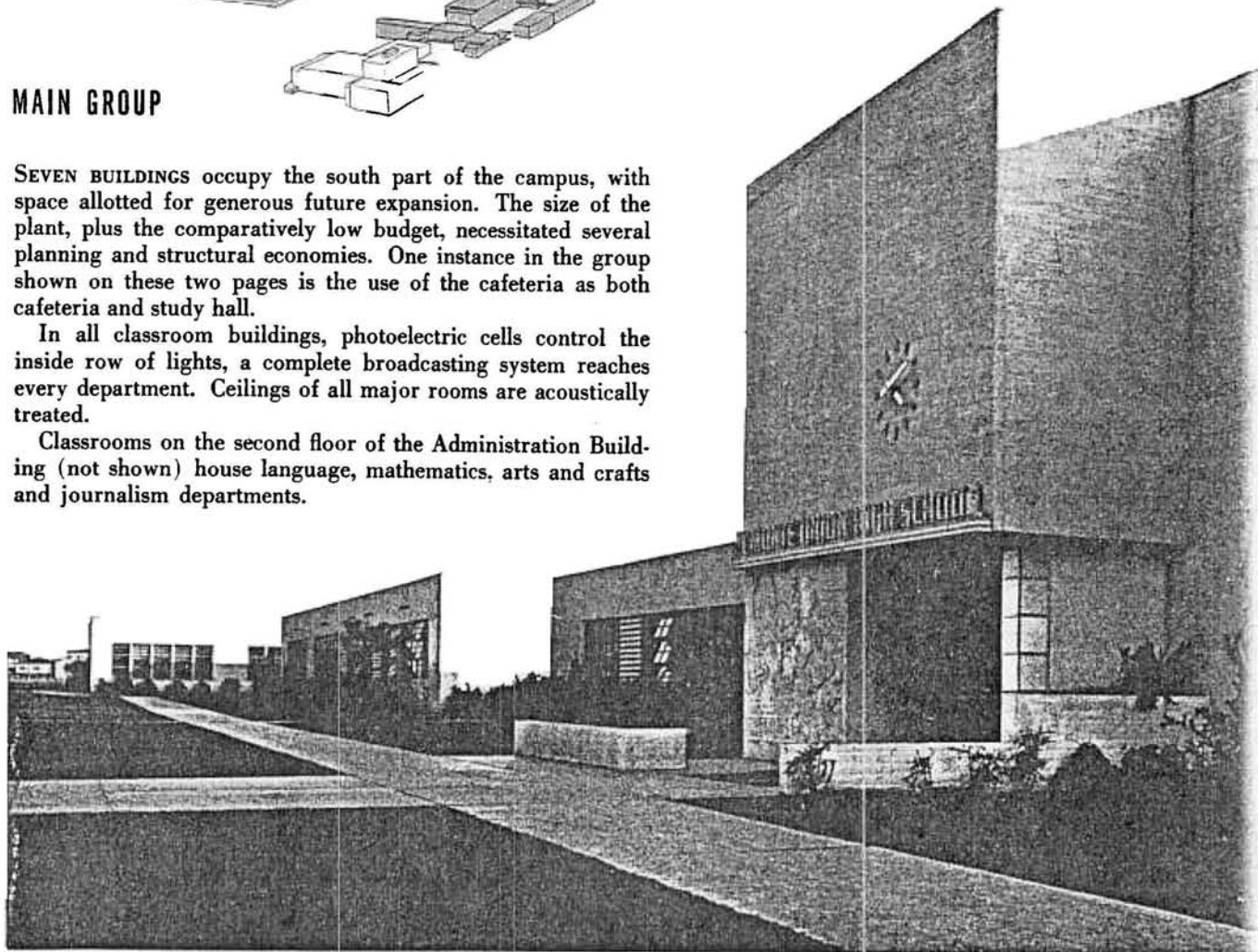
MAIN GROUP

SEVEN BUILDINGS occupy the south part of the campus, with space allotted for generous future expansion. The size of the plant, plus the comparatively low budget, necessitated several planning and structural economies. One instance in the group shown on these two pages is the use of the cafeteria as both cafeteria and study hall.

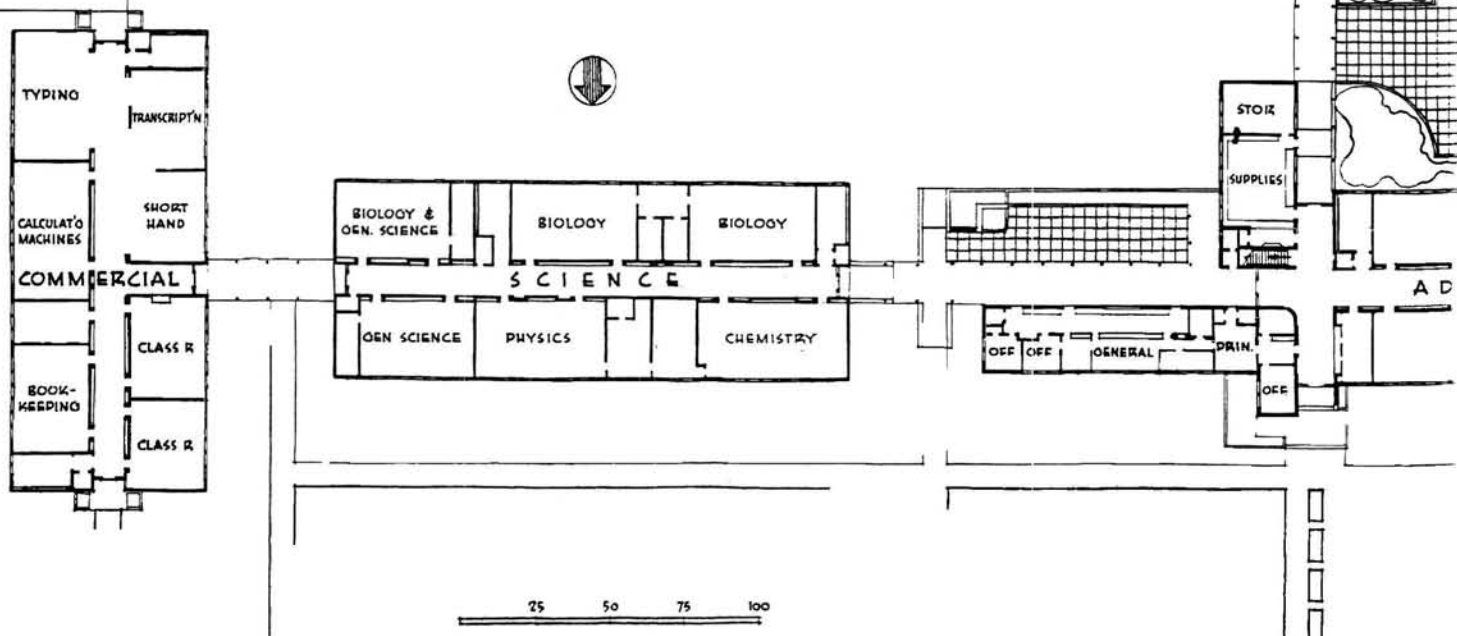
In all classroom buildings, photoelectric cells control the inside row of lights, a complete broadcasting system reaches every department. Ceilings of all major rooms are acoustically treated.

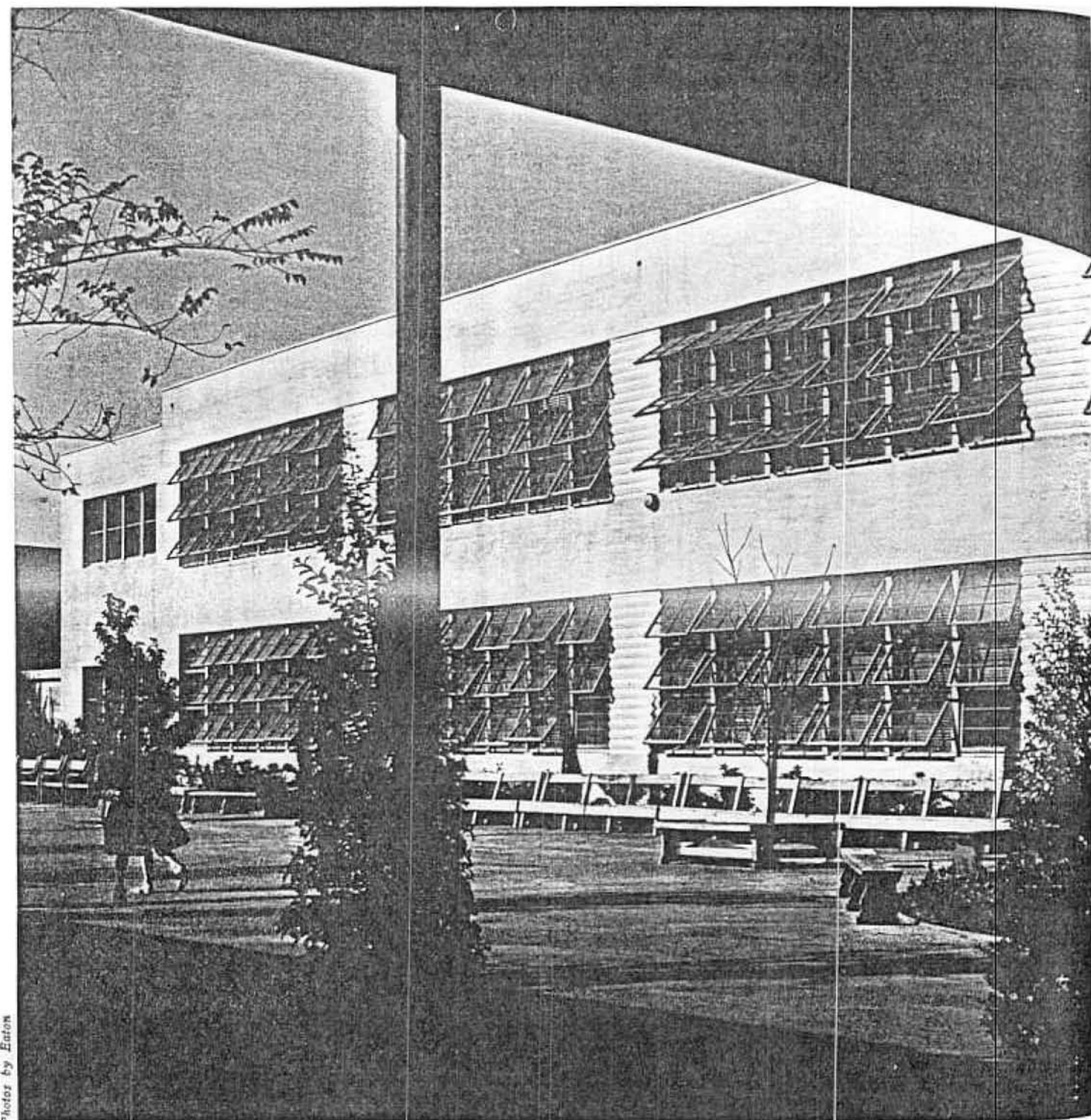
Classrooms on the second floor of the Administration Building (not shown) house language, mathematics, arts and crafts and journalism departments.

Photos by Eaton



FUTURE EXPANSION



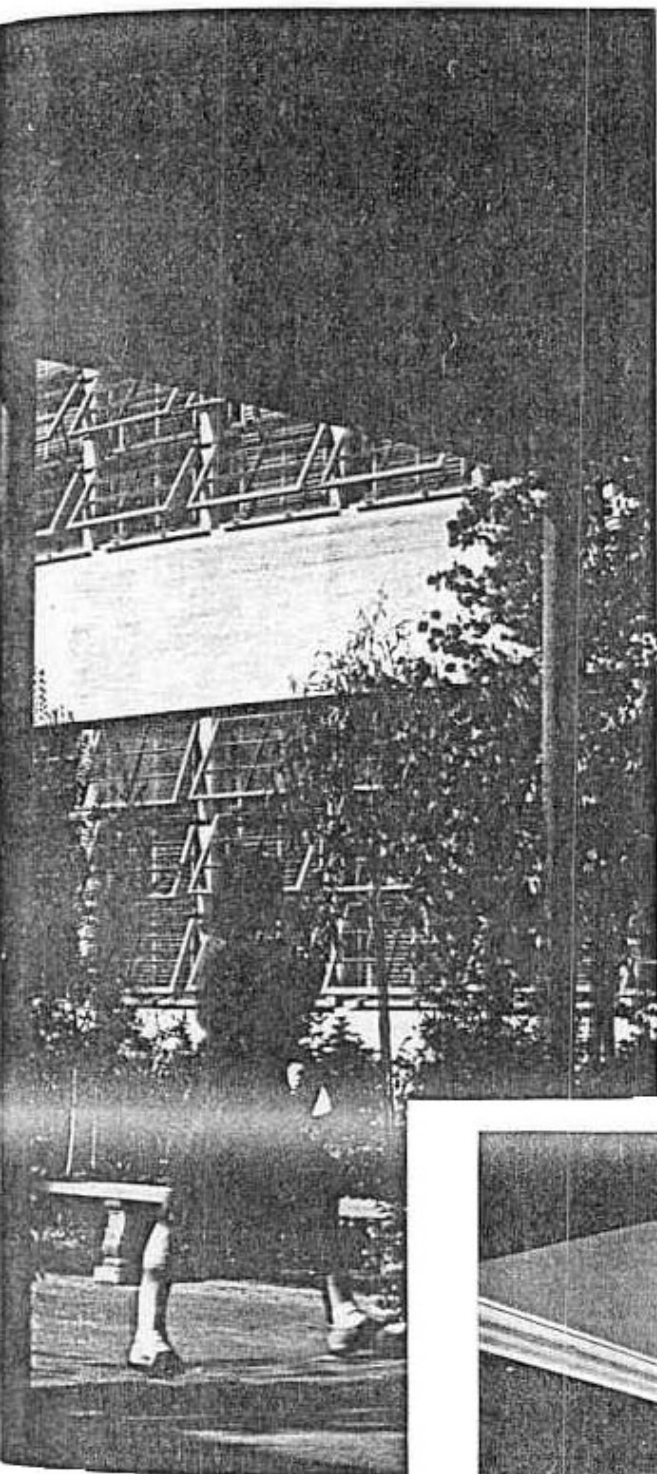


Photos by Enton

CIRCULATION

COVERED WALKS connect all seven of the buildings on the south half of the site. In conjunction with adjacent walls, these passageways form various courtyards and patios. The large one in back of the Administration Building (above) adjoins the cafeteria and is used for outdoor lunch-eating. The two units of the Industrial Arts group are also connected with a sheltered walk, which forms an inner courtyard between them.

Due to the high water level in this area in winter, no basements were included in any of the buildings. Janitors' work rooms and storage spaces were provided above ground. The heating system consists of a gas furnace and fan system in the auditorium and unit heaters in the main rooms of the other buildings.

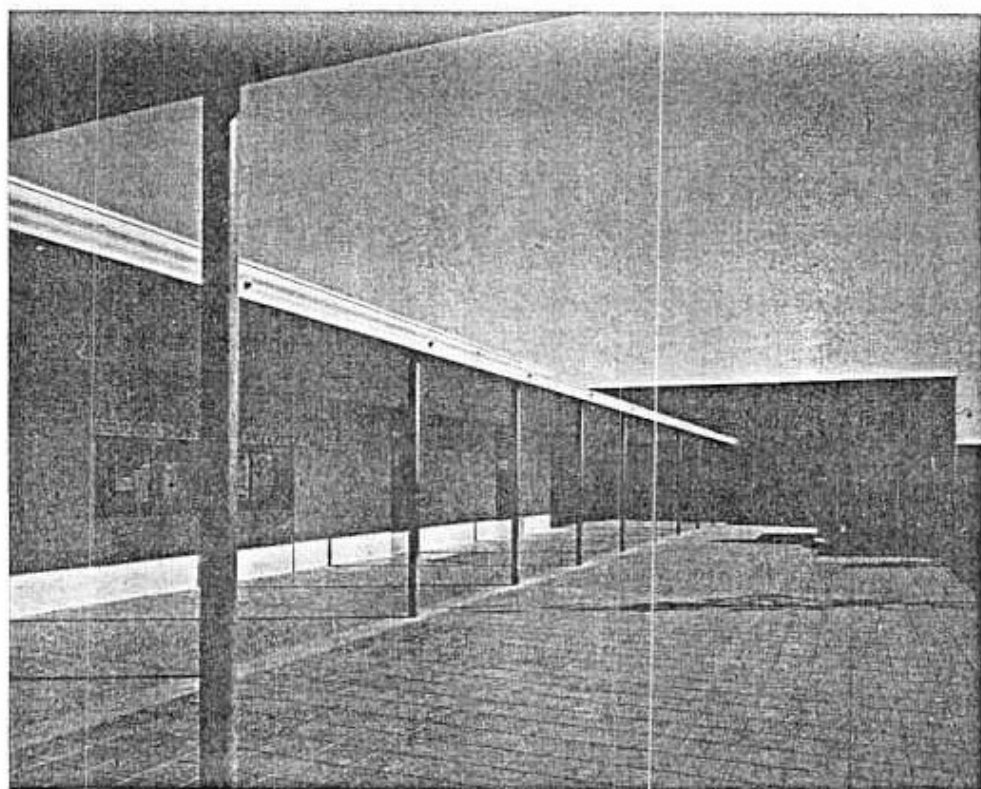


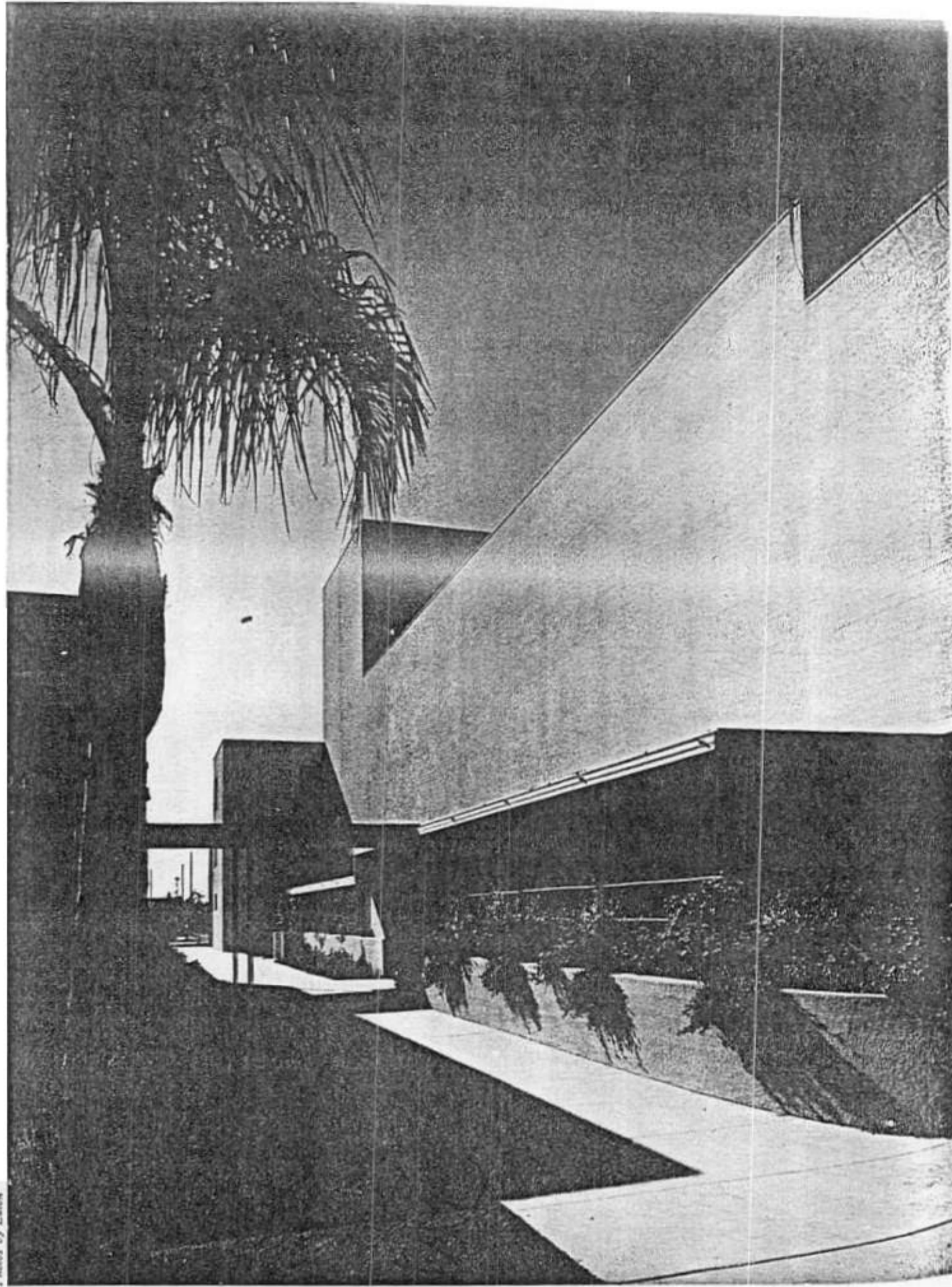
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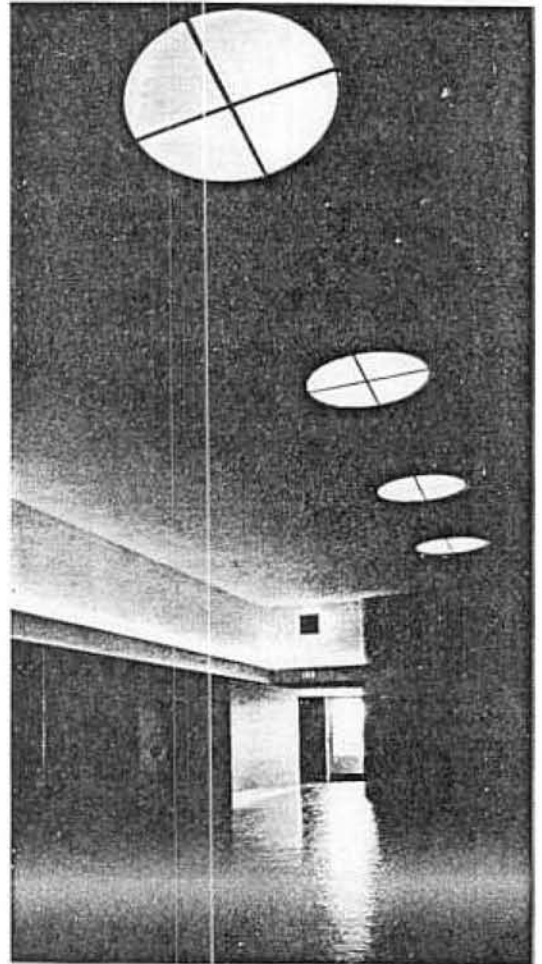
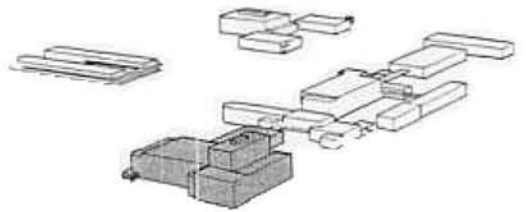
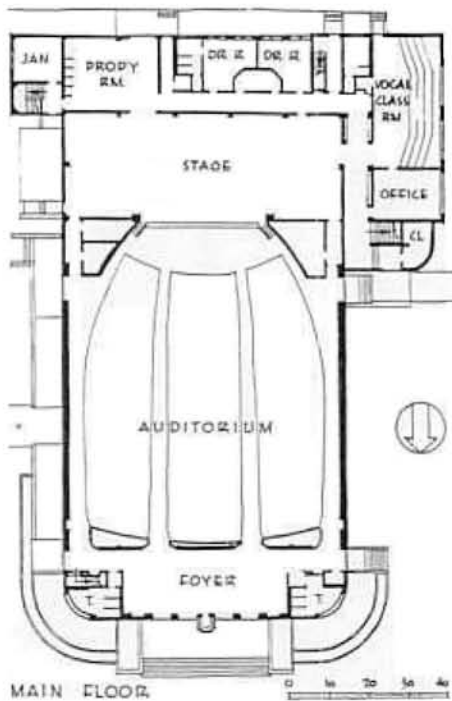
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AUDITORIUM

ONE OF THE LARGER BUILDINGS on the campus is the reinforced concrete Auditorium Building. On the ground floor, besides the foyer, auditorium (seating 1,178) and the full-width stage, there are property, dressing and make-up rooms, and classrooms for singing and music appreciation. A specially noteworthy plan feature is the placement of the property room, which opens directly onto the stage and out to a delivery platform at the rear of the building.

An L-shaped plan borders the stage loft throughout three floors of its height. On the second floor there is a large Band Room and store rooms for costumes and instruments. In back of the stage gridiron, at the third-floor level, are a music-teaching studio and eleven practice rooms.

